

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 3 and 10 are allowed. Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11 and 13 are rejected. Claim 12 is objected to. Claims 11 and 12 have been cancelled. Claims 1-10 and 13 remain in the case for reconsideration. Reconsideration is requested. No new subject matter has been added.

Claim Objections

Claim 12 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The limitations of claim 12 and the intervening claim 11 have been added to independent claim 4. Therefore claim 4 and dependant claims 5 and 13 are allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the rejection and now is in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sassin et al. (US 6,449,260) in view of Glitho et al. (US 6,614,784).

The rejections are respectfully traversed. However, to further this case to issuance, the limitations indicated as allowable by the Examiner have been added to independent claims 1 and 6, therefore claims 1, 6, and 7, and their dependant claims, are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-10 and 13 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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